

103060-2641560

AMENDED CLAIMS

3. (Amended) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that said incompressible insert is cylindrical.

4. (Amended) A process according to Claim 1, characterized in that said container is cylindrical.

9. (Amended) Composite manufactured article (40) comprising a dry gel adhering to an incompressible insert obtained according to the process of Claim 1.

10. (Amended) Composite manufactured article comprising a glass part adhering to an incompressible insert obtained according to the process of Claim 1.

11. (Amended) Preform for optical fiber (50) obtained according to the process of Claim 1, in which the covering (51) consists of pure silicon dioxide and the incompressible insert (52) is a dense cylinder of a mixed glass of silica base with additions of oxides of other elements.

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